

Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children

MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2015

*****REVISED APPROVED – to correct clerical error *****

Members Present

Sgt. Mark Boody
Denise Busley
Dr. Johanna Buzolits
Deborah Carley
Thomas Cottrell
Jerry Dorsey, IV
Kathy Hagenian
Cassandra Harmon-Higgins
Dr. Angie Kennedy
Thomas Knapp
Mary Lovik
Hon. Cheryl Matthews
Mary Jane Tramontin
Carol Hackett Garagiola, Chair

Members Absent

Phyllis Van Order
Dorie Vasquez-Nolan
Christopher Wigent

DHHS Staff Present

Kelcy McArthur
Ginger Czubak, Task Force Coordinator
Danielle Marek

Guests Present

Rachel Webster

Welcome and Introductions

Chair C. Hackett Garagiola convened the tenth meeting of the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children, at the General Office Building, Conference Room B, 1st floor, 7015 Harris Drive, Dimondale, MI 48813 on April 16, 2015 at 9:00 am, welcoming and thanking Task Force members and DHHS staff for their participation. Guest Rachel Webster was welcomed to the meeting and thanked for her presence and participation.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: T. Cottrell to approve April 16, 2015 meeting agenda. Seconded by J. Dorsey, IV. Motion carried.

Approval of March 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Motion: M. Lovik to amend list of members present for March 5, 2015 meeting.

Motion: J. Dorsey, IV to approve the March 5, 2015 meeting minutes, as amended. Seconded by M.J. Tramontin. Motion carried.

Revision of February 12, 2015 Approved Meeting Minutes

Motion: M.J. Tramontin to amend approved February 12, 2015 meeting minutes to correct error to reflect presence of D. Busley at February 12, 2015 meeting. Motion: M.J. Tramontin to approve February 12, 2015 meeting minutes, as amended. Seconded by J. Dorsey, IV. Motion carried.

Administrative Matters

T. Knapp proposed scheduling another Task Force meeting in May, in addition to the already scheduled May 7, 2015 meeting, to ensure sufficient time for members to reach consensus on all recommendations. Members agreed that in addition to the scheduled May 7, 2015 Task Force meeting, another meeting would be scheduled for May 28, 2015. G. Czubak advised that she will make arrangements for the May 28 meeting location and will inform members and post the revised meeting schedule on the Task Force website.

Members discussed logistics, preferences and options for layout and printing of final report.

Report on Meeting with MDOC Personnel

C. Hackett Gargiola reported to members about a meeting on March 18, 2015 with David Dawdy, who is responsible for management of the MI Department of Corrections (MDOC) sex offender treatment programming, and James Kissinger, a provider of sex offender treatment for individuals incarcerated in the MDOC prison system. During the March 18 meeting, D. Dawdy and J. Kissinger provided information and materials about the Michigan Sex Offender Program (MSOP), described plans for enhanced treatment provided through twenty-four-hour therapeutic communities within the prison system, and discussed challenges in establishing continuity between in-prison sex offender treatment and community-based sex offender treatment for sex offenders who transition from prison to the community. D. Dawdy and J. Kissinger also provided information about national experts in the field of sex offender treatment, and after the meeting provided contact information and materials written by these experts.

Report on Child Sexual Abuse Prevention School Protocols and Curricula

D. Busley reported about contacts with individuals and organizations throughout the country involved in child sexual abuse prevention efforts, her requests for model protocols for schools and model curricula for students, and her findings to date. C. Hackett Garagiola reported about her contacts with the Michigan State Board of Education (MSBE), the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), and the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) for assistance with identifying model child sexual abuse prevention protocols for schools, and model child sexual abuse prevention curricula for students. She reported that Michigan State Board of Education members Michelle Fecteau and Casandra Ulbrich had volunteered to serve as liaisons between the MSBE and the Task Force, and had been extremely helpful in establishing contact with MDE and NASBE for Task Force information-gathering purposes. In response to the request for assistance from NASBE, NASBE is conducting research into these issues for the Task Force. Appreciation for the efforts of M. Fecteau and C. Ulbrich was expressed.

M. Lovik, D. Busley, C. Harmon-Higgins, M.J. Tramontin and C. Hackett Garagiola volunteered to work on the school protocol and curricula issues for purposes of the report.

M. Lovik volunteered to write the portions of the final report addressing protocols for youth-serving organizations, and protocols and curricula for schools, and was thanked for the investment of her time and expertise in that effort.

Report on Data Received from MSP

C. Hackett Garagiola reported that Michigan State Police (MSP) had provided extensive 2013 data regarding child sexual abuse in Michigan. T. Knapp, A. Kennedy, J. Dorsey IV, M. Boody, D. Marek and C. Hackett Garagiola volunteered to participate in a conference call with MSP's Wendy Easterbrook who had provided the data and is willing to discuss its meaning. Appreciation for the efforts of W. Easterbrook was expressed.

Survey Summaries

J. Buzolits reported that most summaries of survey results are completed and asked for volunteers to prepare summaries for the remaining survey responses. M.J. Tramontin, A. Kennedy, C. Harmon-Higgins and R. Webster volunteered to prepare the summaries. Members discussed the use of the survey information in the final report. J. Buzolits was thanked for her significant investment of time and effort in leading and managing all aspects of the survey work.

Review and Discussion of Draft Report and Recommendations

Members reviewed and discussed the draft report and recommendations prepared by C. Hackett Garagiola which included the information and proposed recommendations submitted by Task Force members and included the information received from the many national and state experts and resources consulted by the Task Force. Members discussed individual recommendations and reached

consensus on many, while deferring conclusions about others to the May 7 meeting. A. Kennedy, T. Cottrell, K. Hagenian, and D. Marek volunteered to provide assistance with completion of the components of the report that focused on their particular areas of expertise.

Lunch

Members participated in a lunch at their own expense, using no public funds.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Thank you and next meeting

C. Hackett Garagiola thanked meeting participants for the thoughtful discussion that took place during the meeting, and their work to fulfill the Task Force charges. The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for:

Thursday, May 7, 2015
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
General Office Building
Conference Room B – 1st Floor
7015 Harris Drive
Dimondale, MI 48813

Adjournment

Motion: J. Dorsey, IV to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by T. Cottrell. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hackett Garagiola